

INDIANA CORE40

End-of-Course Assessments

April/May – A3 Testing Window

NEWSLETTER

Biology I and Algebra I reports available May 12, 2008

ECAs are available in the following content areas in 2007-08:

Algebra I, Algebra II, Biology I, and English 11

PURPOSE OF ECAs

As part of Indiana's school accountability system under Public Law 221, Core 40 End-of-Course Assessments (ECAs) are designed to ensure the quality, consistency, and rigor of Core 40 courses across the state. Aligned with Indiana's Academic Standards, End-of-Course Assessments are final exams measuring what students know and are able to do upon completion of targeted Core 40 courses. In addition, the End-of-Course Assessments are an integral component of Indiana's P-16 Plan for Improving Student Achievement. As a part of this vision, these exams would serve an additional purpose of providing valuable information for college placement.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations for the ECAs will be based upon those observed for ISTEP+. Generally, that means that a student will receive the same testing accommodations as those that occur throughout the student's educational program. Refer to the Core 40 ECA Test Administration Manual for the full listing of online accommodations:

http://doe.state.in.us/core40eca/pdf/online_testing_manual.pdf

TEST SECURITY

Teachers and students will not be given advance knowledge of the test content prior to administration, and testing materials may not be copied or printed. ECA material may not be saved or disseminated in hardcopy or electronic format.

ONLINE PRACTICE TESTS

Before Testing:

<https://incore40eca.questarai.com/practice>

Once Testing Begins:

<https://incore40eca.questarai.com>



WHAT'S NEW FOR ECAs

*** 3 Vendors: Corporations are assigned an ECA vendor**

Questar will deliver Core 40 ECAs

ACT will deliver QualityCore ECAs (see ACT informational box at the bottom of this newsletter)

Pearson will deliver ADP Algebra II ECAs (see <http://www.achieve.org/node/842> for more info)

*** Cut scores for Biology I Core 40 ECAs:**

Standards' Setting was completed in 2007. A Scale Score and Performance Level Descriptor of Did Not Pass, Pass, or Pass+ will be reported for each student.

*** IDOE Data Collection - Benefits for Schools:**

Data Collection allowed corporations to upload class rosters for each ECA testing window. Barcode labels were created for Paper-and-Pencil tests (no bubbling for students!), online class folders are set up for teachers, and students are pre-registered for the online tests!

MATERIALS NEEDED ON TESTING DAY

- Test Examiner Password
- Calculator (for Algebra I or II)
- Indiana STN 4 digit School Number
- Scratch Paper (Collect and destroy after test!)
- Timer
- Pencils
- Manual

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Via Email: Core40Support@questarai.com

Via Phone: 1-877-424-0322

1. For Core 40 Courses throughout the state, ECAs are designed to ensure

- A. quality
- B. consistency
- C. rigor
- ☒ D. all of the above

ACT QualityCore ECAs: English 11 & Algebra II

ACT introduced QualityCore™, an instructional improvement program designed to help ensure that the outcomes of high school preparatory courses are aligned with essential postsecondary skills. The Assessments are designed to ensure that outcomes of high school core preparatory courses are aligned with college readiness standards. QC provides teachers with model lessons, model units, formative assessment item pools, and end-of-course assessments to help improve the quality, consistency, and rigor of core preparatory courses. Visit <http://www.act.org/qualitycore/indiana/> for an Examiner's Manual and more information.

Questions: Contact ACT for information regarding these assessments at 1-866-764-7228

QualityCore